FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

1 MARCH 1984

## Lebanon

Lebanese-Syrian Summit — President Amin al-Jumayyil held two rounds of talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus on 29 February, Damascus radio reported, and the discussions focused on the Lebanese situation in light of "new developments and the desire to find solutions that preserve Lebanon's Arabism and rights." Damascus radio said the two leaders resumed their talks on 1 March. Although the Phalangist clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported that no statement abrogating the 17 May agreement is expected during Al-Jumayyil's visit, Syrian sources cited by Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon said Al-Jumayyil agreed "in principle" to revoke the accord with Israel. Official Lebanese sources predicted that the Syrian-Lebanese summit will result in the resumption of the national dialogue conference and the formation of a national unity government after consolidating a general cease-fire, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. However, Voice of the Mountain, the clandestine radio of the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), expressed the opposition's fears over the possibility of reaching a settlement with Al-Jumayyil "following the massacres he has committed."

Israeli Position — If Lebanon abrogates the agreement with Israel, the latter will act as it wishes in southern Lebanon, making security arrangements without coordinating with the Lebanese, Jerusalem television reported. Syria has indicated to Israel "by various means" that it would be prepared to agree to security arrangements on Israel's northern border with Lebanon if the agreement is cancelled, and Israel may go along with an initiative of that kind, the television said.

Security/Military Situation — A car bomb exploded in the Tallat Al-Khayyat area of west Beirut on 29 February, killing 3 people and wounding 38 others, Beirut radio reported. The Voice of the Mountain and Radio Free Lebanon both reported further exchanges of fire in and around Beirut, with the latter accusing Syria of shelling the Christian sector to increase the political pressure on President al-Jumayyil. A U.S. warship fired several salvos late on 29 February in retaliation for shelling near the U.S. ambassador's residence, according to the Voice of Lebanon.

## Syria

The Syrian authorities have reinforced the guard in strategic places in Damascus after foiling an attempted coup in the Army, Amman's *AKHBAR AL-USBU'* reported on 1 March.

## PLO-JORDAN

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left Amman for Tunis on 1 March after holding talks with King Husayn on the adoption of a joint stance toward the Middle East Crisis, according to "informed source" in Amman cited by Kuwait radio. INA reported earlier that 'Arafat's final discussions with Husayn focused on the need for joint action over the "critical situation" in the occupied Arab territories, on future Jordanian-Palestinian relations, and on the Palestinian right to self-determination. The previous day, 'Arafat accompanied King Husayn on a visit to inspect Jordanian Army and Air Force units, Amman radio noted, and the king told visiting West Bank personalities that Jordan will not bargain over an inch of Palestinian land and continues to believe in the return of all the Israeli-occupied territories, headed by Jerusalem, in return for peace.

Meanwhile, 'Arafat said there are no difficulties in the PLO-Jordanian talks and he expressed confidence that an agreement will be reached, Algiers Voice of Palestine radio reported, citing an 'Arafat interview with the London *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*. An "informed source" cited by Amman's *AD-DUSTUR* disclosed that the forthcoming Jordanian-Palestinian statement will call for an urgent Arab summit conference.

## Iran-Iraq War

While admitting that attacking Iranian forces managed to establish "footholds" in the positions of three Iraqi companies in the III Army corps sectorin the southern front, an Iraqi military spokesman announced in remarks reported by INA that Iraqi forces had inflicted "heavy losses" in men and equipment on the attackers. The Iraqi troops are currently "besieging and destroying" the Iranian units, Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio added. However, Iranian military sources cited by IRNA described the new offensive as "successful and satisfactory" with one strategic bridge being seized and "heavy casualties" being inflicted on the Iraqis. Two Iraqi battalions and one commando company were "completely destroyed" in the Iranian forces' advance to "new positions" which they are currently reinforcing, Tehran radio reported. Commenting on the Iraqi military spokesman's statement in which he "confessed" that Iran had seized new positions, IRNA said it was an attempt to prevent further Iraqi propaganda "failures."

In the Gulf, seven Iranian naval targets were destroyed in "surprising, effective" attacks against them by Iraqi naval and naval air force units in the Khowr-e Musa area, an Iraqi military spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio on 1 March. All Iraqi forces returned safely to base. Two Iranian planes were shot down on 1 March, the military spokesman added. These actions affirm Iraq's ability to continue its "siege" of Iranian port areas which it began on 27 February, the spokesman concluded. Iran, however, announced that it had shot down an Iraqi plane on 1 March, bringing to seven the total number of planes downed by Iranian forces since the start of the Khaybar offensive, IRNA announced.

Meanwhile, an Iraqi counterattack to recapture the Majnun area in southern Iraq was "smashed" by Iranian forces on 29 February, Tehran radio reported. The Iranian troops gained "full

control" of the region, killing or wounding "hundreds" of Iraqi soldiers in the process, the radio added. A second Iraqi counter-attack in the Val-Fajr V operational theater in the Changuleh region south of Dehloran was also repelled with "heavy casualties" being inflicted on the Iraqi forces, according to IRNA. A spokesman for the Iranian War Information Headquarters announced that there was no longer any need for foreign reporters to inspect the Khaybar operational area since the Baghdad authorities had issued a "clear confession" to having lost the Majnun area, IRNA said.

An Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio on 29 February reported that Iranian planes bombed Iraqi forces along the Al-Qurnah-Al-'Amarah road and all returned safely to base. A total of 30 people were killed and 338 wounded by the Iraqi air raid on Bakhtaran on 28 February, IRNA reported. Some 1,000 Iranian troops were wounded by Iraqi chemical bombings of the southern front this week, IRNA added.

The Iraqi Armed Forces General Command communique broadcast by Baghdad radio on 29 February reported that known Iranian losses from the 28 February battle in the III Army Corps sector are 5,462 dead and a large number wounded or captured. Iraqi planes safely carried out a total of 212 combat missions on 29 February, some of them "deep" in Iranian territory, the communique added. Press reports cited by INA said that "confirmed information" had been obtained which showed that Iranian forces had used Syrian and Israeli weapons in their recent attacks east of Basra. In another development, "informed sources" in the British Lloyds corporation reportedly said that three oil tankers were hit by Iraqi planes in their attack on Khark Island earlier this week, INA announced.

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**Karmal Says Land Reform Begun Hurriedly**
*LD292307 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1630 GMT 29 Feb 84*

[Excerpts] Dear listeners of Radio Afghanistan: As you know, a meeting was held in the Storay Palace of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on implementation of the democratic land reform and just distribution of water in the villages. At this session, Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, made a speech on the implementation of land and water reforms in the country. We draw your attention to this speech:

[Begin recording] I am happy to greet you here at this session on land and water reform on behalf of the party and government. With courage we can say that Decree No 8 and the start of its implementation took place in an extremely hurried situation. This is an important and major point. A great step was taken without careful and profound study or collection of information from all corners of the country, without scientific study of land questions, national and historic characteristics, characteristics of the situation of peasants in the country, or the nature of the land question, although the aim of this step was lofty and sacred.

I said that we began land reform in the country after the April Revolution. Despite the negative side of the issue we have gathered valuable experience. This experience greatly affects our revolution, our party, and our people. Therefore, we must make maximum use of this great experience which was extremely painful and we should learn from it.

The other factor is this — that the just war, the revolutionary battle against unjust battle, the declared or undeclared war of reaction and imperialism, the armed battle of the counterrevolutionaries against the revolution, profoundly shakes all the thoughts of the people of a country, their awareness and consciousness. Despite all the pains, difficulties, and sorrows which gave our revolution the color of blood, we can achieve a formidable result if our revolutionary party and revolutionary government properly confront them within a specific period of time. [sentence as heard]

Now we should find and properly tackle a suitable method in respect of the implementation of land and water reform. We have in our hands the great experience of the progressive world, the knowledge of our country, the valuable experience from inside our country, and the great power of the Soviet Union is on our side and gives us assistance. Therefore, there is only one way — for everyone to say with a loud voice that they are committed and have decided to implement the land and water reforms. We are confident that our revolution is victorious and we will reach the stage of progress. [applause] [end recording]

**President Convenes PDPA Plenum 29 February**
*LD292131 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 29 Feb 84*

[Text] The 13th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee on intensifying the struggle against the counterrevolution and further strengthening state sovereignty was convened today under the chairmanship of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, at the Delkosha Palace of the Revolutionary Council headquarters.

The plenum was attended by Politburo members and secretaries of the PDPA Central Committee, heads of the departments of the PDPA Central Committee, members of the party Central Committee, vice presidents and members of the Revolutionary Council Presidium, heads of zones, secretaries of provincial party committees, deputy heads of the defense and justice department of the party Central Committee, political heads of the Armed Forces, and heads of courts of the DRA.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports that Babrak Karmal in a brief speech opened the work of the plenum. After the unanimous approval of the plenum's agenda on intensifying struggle against the counterrevolution and further strengthening of state sovereignty, Babrak Karmal delivered the main report of the plenum and spoke comprehensively on the revolutionary tasks of the party and state organs.

Babrak Karmal delivered an instructive speech on strengthening work for the complete elimination of the counterrevolution which serves imperialism and international reaction and on the practical methods of strengthening state sovereignty throughout the country. Babrak Karmal mentioned new, broad possibilities which have come into existence in this area and indicated the new directions of work and activities on strengthening of state power and the complete elimination of the counterrevolution.

Delivering speeches in support of the main report of the plenum, Najibollah, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and general director of the State Information Services; Lieutenant General 'Abdol Qader, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of defense; Brigadier General Sayyed Mohammad Golabzoy, member of the Central Committee and minister of internal affairs; Gol Dad, member of the Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Solayman Laeq, member of the party Central Committee and minister of tribal and nationalities affairs; Brigadier General Shahnawaz Tanay, member of the party Central Committee and commander of the Central Army Corps; and Fazl Ahmad Toghyan, candidate member of the party Central Committee and governor of Kabul Province expressed readiness to implement the main report of the plenum and the valuable guidance of Babrak Karmal.

The BAKHTAR correspondent adds that when discussions on the main report of the plenum ended, the draft of the plenum's resolution was discussed and unanimously approved in a sincere, free, and comradely atmosphere after hearing views and proposals. The work of the plenum which started at 1000 ended at 1800 with the concluding speech of Babrak Karmal.

### Report on President Ershad's 29 February Address

*BK291822 Dhaka Overseas Service in Bengali 1700 GMT 29 Feb 84*

[Excerpt] President and Chief Martial Law Administrator Lieutenant General H.M. Ershad has announced that the presidential and parliamentary elections will be held simultaneously on 27 May. Addressing the nation over radio and television this evening, he said that this decision has been made because the people of Bangladesh are in favor of holding both elections on the same day for the establishment of democracy, the peaceful transfer of power, and the withdrawal of martial law. He added that the government will, of course, welcome any leader, party, or alliance if they intend to have a discussion on this decision.

President Ershad said that the presidential and parliamentary polls will be held on the basis of free political activity, which is a basic prerequisite for the transition to democracy. Keeping this objective in view, free political activities will be allowed from 26 March — Independence Day. He expressed the hope that various political parties and alliances will extend cooperation by maintaining a peaceful atmosphere.

Referring to his month-long dialogue with various political parties to arrive at a consensus on the issues of the transition to democracy, presidential and parliamentary elections, and other important issues of national interest, he said that he held discussions with 292 leaders of 52 political parties. In addition to this, he gathered the views of various quarters and leaders by traveling [word indistinct] areas of the country.

A developing country like Bangladesh needs a democracy which is capable of making correct decisions and taking necessary steps for the economic development of the country. We have to create a favorable and suitable atmosphere for utilizing the domestic and foreign resources for maintaining the minimum economic activities to improve the lot of our countrymen. That is why we must establish a democratic political system where the Armed Forces, mingled with other sections of the people of the country, can have a [word indistinct] role and make contributions toward national development. He added that such a system will help in achieving political stability in the country.

Referring to his pledge to give the nation a democratic system, the president said that union council and municipal elections have already been held and subdistrict elections will be held soon. This step will ensure greater participation of the people in economic development. He said that this election will bring about real change in the administration of rural Bangladesh and the local people and leaders will be able to adopt and implement various development programs to achieve economic self-reliance in their respective areas.

### Opposition Notes Ershad Speech; Strike Still On

*BK291724 Hong Kong AFP in English 1719 GMT 29 Feb 84*

[Text] Dhaka, Feb 29 (AFP) — Bangladesh's two major opposition alliances encompassing 22 political parties will go ahead with their planned half-day general strike call for tomorrow, the alliances sources said. Despite President Ershad's announcement rescheduling presidential and parliamentary elections, the opposition alliances did not change their programme for the strike, the sources said.

The oppositions' stand was made clear this evening when Sheikh Hasina, president of the Bangladesh Awami League and a leader of the 15-party alliance, told a rally in the city to make tomorrow's strike a success. "The parliamentary election must be held first and under any circumstances we would not allow the March 24 upaziia (sub-district) polls to be held," Hasina told the rally held just before President Ershad made his broadcast this evening.

At another rally in the afternoon, Khaleda Zia, acting chairperson of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) which leads the 7-party alliance declared that the strike would go ahead and asked people to observe it peacefully and make it a success. "Ershad should step down and hand over power to those from whom he had snatched it away illegally," Begum Zia, widow of the assasinated President Ziaur Rahman told the rally at Jurain, a suburb of Dhaka.

The Central Students' Action Committee which held a big rally protesting the death of two students under the wheels of a police van Tuesday also planned to go ahead with the strike tomorrow.

The 15-party alliance in a statement issued after President Ershad's speech this evening called upon the people to observe the strike tomorrow and resist the holding of the upazila elections on March 24. The statement said that 19-party alliance would not be confused by the presidential speech and would continue their movement till their 5-point demands were fulfilled.

### 1 March General Strike Gets Under Way

*BK010841 Hong Kong AFP in English 0801 GMT 1 Mar 84*

[Text] Dhaka, March 1 (AFP) — A dawn to 2 p.m. general strike got underway throughout the country at the call of Bangladesh's two major opposition alliances encompassing 22 political parties.

In the capital city, all vehicles kept off the streets except for police vans, convoys of troops and ambulances. Shops also remained closed and attendence was thin at government offices.

Armed police squads and paramilitary Bangladesh Rifles [BDR] cordoned off the Dhaka University campus — one of the city's politically sensitive trouble spots.

Minor brickbatting between police and students backed by street urchins was reported from some major road intersections where police were reported to have used teargas to disperse mobs.

Meanwhile, local newspapers reported today that some leaders of the 15-party and seven-party alliances had been detained by police late last night.

Those arrested include Shah Azizur Rahman, a former prime minister and a leader of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), and Abdul Mannan, a former home minister of the Bangladesh Awami League.

Reports from the southeastern port city of Chittagong said the strike there was total.

The strike was part of the opposition's movement to press home their five-point demands and to force the military regime to postpone the upazilla (sub-district) elections set for 24 March.

The opposition's five-point demand calls for the restoration of civil rights, free political activities, the release of political prisoners and above all the holding of parliamentary elections before the local polls.

**Termed 'Unprecedented Success'**

*BK011226 Hong Kong AFP in English 1217 GMT 1 Mar 84*

[Text] Dhaka, March 1 (AFP) — At least two people were killed and several injured today when clashes erupted during a nationwide general strike called by opposition alliances protesting against the military regime of President Hussain Mohammed Ershad, official sources here said.

A spokesman for the two alliances, which group 22 opposition parties, said senior opposition leaders and party workers had been arrested in connection with the eight-hour strike, which he called "a complete and unprecedented success."

Alliance sources told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that the top leaders of the alliances, Sheikh Hasina Wajed of the Bangladesh Awami League (Hasina), which leads a 15-party alliance, and Begum Khaleda Zia of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), a seven-party combine, had been placed under house arrest. Other leaders detained by police included Shah Azizur Rahman, a former prime minister and BNP leader, and Abdul Mannan, a former Awami League home minister, the sources said.

The strike was called to force the military regime to postpone upazilla (sub-district) elections set for March 24 and to press for a series of opposition demands. The two alliances have put forward a five-point demand calling for the lifting of martial law, the restoration of civil rights, the release of political prisoners and the holding of parliamentary elections before the local polls.

Mr. Ershad yesterday said he would restore free political activity form March 26, but refused to reschedule the local elections, which the opposition says would be invalid because they were being held by an illegal military government.

All shops and business offices in the capital were closed today and attendance by workers at government offices was reported to be thin. Heavily armed paramilitary troops and police forces were patrolling the capital's streets, which were empty of civilian vehicles.

Students and political workers backed by street urchins threw stones at police in the deserted avenues and alleyways. Police were reported to have used teargas to disperse angry crowds at a number of intersections. Near the campus of Dhaka University, angry groups of protesters attacked an Army recruiting office and set fire to an army vehicle. One witness said a young boy was killed when police opened fired to disperse the protesters.

Another person was reported killed in the industrial town of Adamje Nagar, about 16 kilometers (10 miles) east of Dhaka, when a skirmish broke out between supporters and opponents of today's strike.

Reports from the south-eastern port city of Chittagong, Bangladesh's second largest city, said the strike there was total. Heavily armed troops were guarding Chittagong's streets and government offices, the reports said.

**Delhi Says 5 Killed**

*BK011619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Mar 84*

[Text] In Bangladesh, five people including a 7-year-old boy were killed in demonstrations during a half-day strike called by the main political parties. The strike was in demand for restoration of democracy and cancellation of subdistrict elections to be held later this month. A large number of people, most of them students, were injured when police used tear gas on crowds at the Dhaka University campus and other parts of the city. Shops and offices in Dhaka remained closed.

According to the opposition parties, a number of political leaders including the Awami League chief, Mrs Hasina Wajed, and the president of Bangladesh Nationalist Party, Mrs Khaleda Zia, and the former prime minister, Sheikh Azizur Rahman were detained last night.

**Gandhi Terms Communalism 'Indian Version of Fascism'**
*BK011253 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 1 Mar 84*

[Text] The prime minister has cautioned the people against communal and secessionist forces that are posing a threat to the nation's unity and security. Mrs Gandhi called upon all political parties and nonpolitical organizations to isolate the extremists and terrorists. Only then can a conducive atmosphere be reached to solve the problems facing the country. The prime minister was replying to a 3-day discussion on the president's address in the Lok Sabha today. After her hour-long speech punctuated with wit and lively repartee, the house adopted the motion of thanks to the president, rejecting all amendments. Mrs Gandhi covered a wide range of topics including the situation in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir, economic achievements, and the international scene.

Describing communalism as the Indian version of fascism, Mrs Gandhi said this virus has to be rooted out from our body politic. She reiterated that negotiations are the only way to settle disputes nationally and internationally.

Referring to the situation in Punjab, she said a small group is trying to create suspicion and discord among the people of the state. Sikhs as a whole are not with these extremists. They are a dynamic people. She has a special feeling of respect for them because of the way they rehabilitated themselves after great sufferings during the partition.

The prime minister also expressed great concern over the activities of the secessionists and communal forces in Jammu and Kashmir. She would not have raised her voice had she not seen signs of some threat to security from these elements.

Earlier, during the debate, several members expressed distress over the continuing incidents of violence in Punjab. Opposition members appealed to Akalis to call off their agitation. Another member suggested setting up of joint peace committees of all political parties in the affected districts of Punjab. Some members expressed concern over the activities of some communal and antinational elements in Jammu and Kashmir.

**3 Die in Amritsar Blast; Curfews Extended**
*BK010319 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 1 Mar 84*

[Text] In Punjab, with one more person succumbing to his injuries, the death toll in yesterday's bomb blast in Amritsar has risen to three. Over 2 dozen persons, including women and children, were injured in the blast. Police apprehended two persons on the basis of suspicion from near the place of the blast.

Meanwhile, night curfew in Amritsar, Jullundur, Ferozepur, Ludhiana, and Khanna has been extended till tomorrow. In Patiala, the curfew was imposed yesterday from 1200 till this morning as a precautionary measure in view of some tension in parts pf the city.

The Punjab units of the Communist Party of India and Bharatiya Janata Party have condemned the disrespect being shown to the Constitution by the Akalis. The Akali DAL president, Sant Longowal, has contested a statement in Parliament on Tuesday that the word Sikh was included in Article 25 of the Constitution under an agreement between the then home minister and Master Tara Singh.

**Manipur Chief Says 370 'Extremists' Surrender**
*BK010559 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 1 Mar 84*

[Text] In Manipur, 370 extremists are reported to have surrendered to the government. This was stated by the state chief minister, Mr Reishang Keishing, in the state assembly yesterday. He said the state government has taken up 11 schemes to rehabilitate those who have surrendered.

**Rao Briefs Lok Sabha on Diplomat's Killing**
*BK010855 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 1 Mar 84*

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, informed the Lok Sabha today that the two persons who were arrested yesterday in connection with the kidnapping of the Indian diplomat, Mr Mhatre, in Birmingham , hold Pakistani passports. He gave their names as Abdul Majid Ansari and Jahangir Akhtar Mirza.

Replying to a spate of supplementaries on the incident, Mr Rao refuted the opposition allegation that the government and the high commission in London did not move swiftly in the matter. He said both the high commission and the government moved the British Government immediately after they received information about the kidnapping. [sentence as heard] An official was dispatched to London from New Delhi. But, Mr Rao said the murder of Mr Mhatre had taken place even before anything could be done. He also informed the house that the existence of the so-called Kashmir Liberation Army was unknown earlier.

The external affairs minister said the Indian missions have been put on maximum alert following the incident. He, however, pointed out that security of the missions and personnel posted abroad is a responsibility of the host government in terms of the Geneva Convention.

### Zia on Elections, Afghanistan, Border Situation

*BK010518 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 2 Mar 84*

[Excerpt] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has expressed confidence that all sensible elements in the coutnry, irrespective of their political views and ideologies, will cooperate with him in implementing the political program he announced on 12 August last year. Talking to newsmen at Karachi airport prior to his departure for Islamabad last night, he said lack of such cooperation and assistance will make it difficult to pass through the stages which are necessary for the restoration of democracy.

In reply to a question, the president said the Election Commission is doing its job according to the program. When asked about the time for the dissolution of the existing Federal Advisory Council as part of the preparation for future elections, the president replied that the Federal Advisory Council will continue to work until a new body comes into being.

On Afghanistan, the president said the circumstances which led Pakistan and the ICO 4 years ago to decide not to recognize the present regime in Kabul have still not changed, and there is no possibility of direct talks with the Karmal regime. Pakistan remains committed to its stand to resolve the Afghanistan problem in accordance with the resolutions of the ICO, Nonaligned Movement, and the United Nations, he added.

The president said the UN secretary general's special representative, Mr Cordovez, will undertake a scheduled visit to the region in April, and he hopes that some progress toward a solution to this problem will be made.

The president said Afghan refugees have not in any way created a problem of law and order for Pakistan. They are living in the country as refugees and the people of Pakistan are treating them as Muslim brethren. He said about 10 to 15 million rupees are being spent on Afghan refugees in Pakistan. Half of this amount is being provided by Pakistan from its own resources. However, Pakistan will continue to fulfill its responsibility as usual, the president added.

When the president's attention was drawn toward the recent statements by some Indian leaders about the situation on the Pakistan-India border, he said we are aware of the military situation on our side as well as across the border, and there is nothing to worry about. The president said the situation at the border does not warrant such statements. However, India is facing some internal problems in Punjab and in other parts of the country, and these statements might be attempts to divert attention from these problems.

Earlier, the president participated as chief guest in a dinner hosted by the association for the education and welfare of blind people.

### Annual Consultations With Japan Begin in Islamabad

*OW251231 Tokyo KYODO in English 1132 GMT 25 Feb 84*

[Text] Islamabad, Feb. 25 KYODO — A 12-member official delegation led by Tomoya Kawamura, deputy director general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Economic Cooperation Bureau, started annual consultations Saturday with Pakistani Government officials over Japanese aid to Pakistan during fiscal 1984-1985.

A Japanese Embassy official said that aid disbursment to Pakistan during the next fiscal year is expected to be around last year's level of 38 billion yen, including a grant component of 8 billion yen. He said Pakistan must submit projects suitable for Japanese project or commodity assistance during 1984-1985. But the official indicated that the widening of a canal in Baluchistan, expansion of a Jam Shoro combined cycle 450 megawatt power plant and the purchase of diesel-electric locomotives from Japan were among the projects on which talks are expected between the two sides.

Railway Minister Abdul Ghafoor Hoti visited Japan last month to negotiate Japanese assistance for setting up a locomotive factory and for purchasing locomotives.

The first round of talks Saturday at the Economic Affairs Ministry was attended by officials from four economic ministries and government organizations on the Pakistani side. Secretary of Economic Affairs Ejaz Ahmad Naik [as received] led the Pakistani delegation.

#### Japanese Official Comments

*BK280757 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 28 Feb 84*

[Text] Tomoya Kawamura, leader of the Japanese consultative mission for economic and technical cooperation, said that his country wants to stabilize friendship with Pakistan through effective economic, technical, and cultural cooperation.He told a news conference in Islamabad yesterday that there has been a manifold increase in cooperation between the two countries during the past few years. He said Japan considers Pakistan a friend.

#### Talks End 'Inconclusively'

*OW280421 Tokyo KYODO in English 0031 GMT 28 Feb 84*

[Text] Islamabad, Feb. 28 KYODO — Japan and Pakistan Monday ended three days of talks inconclusively without reaching understanding on projects to be aided by Japan in fiscal 1984, a Japanese spokesman said.

The spokesman told reporters the two sides "lack understanding on the projects" suitable for Japanese aid during the coming fiscal year.

The two countries have been regularly holding annual consultations for the past four years to firm up projects and fields in which they can cooperate.

According to the Japanese spokesman, Japan's aid to Pakistan since 1979 has more than doubled and the aid in fiscal 1983 totaled 30 billion yen (129 million dollars).

He refused to dwell upon the reasons which prevented understanding on projects suitable for Japanese aid, but indicated the Japanese side was interested in disbursement mainly in social sectors, while Pakistan was giving priority to other areas.

**Iranian Envoy Arrives, Meets Yaqub Khan**
*BK291549 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 29 Feb 84*

[Text] Special emissary of the Iranian foreign minister, Tehrani, called on Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan at the Foreign Office in Islamabad today and delivered a message from Iranian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati. The message is supposed to be related to the Iran-Iraq war. Tehrani arrived in Islamabad this morning on a 2-day visit to Pakistan.

**IAEA Head Cited on Peaceful Nuclear Use**
*BK010405 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 1 Mar 84*

[Text] The visiting director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency, Dr Hans Blix, has said his organization has no information that any of its member countries has used a large quantity of reserved nuclear material for anything other than peaceful purposes. He was delivering a lecture at the Institute of Atomic Science and Technology in Islamabad yesterday. Referring to the acute shortage of fuel obtainable from the ground in developed countries, he said the need for atomic energy will further increase in future, as this source of energy is relatively cheap and suitable.

## Possible Responses to U.S. Action in Gulf Viewed

### 'Suicide Operations' Discussed

*GF292058 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 29 Feb 84*

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] The international circles are talking about the possibility of reopening the Strait of Hormuz if it is closed by the Islamic Republic of Iran, which would do so if its interests are threatened by the hostile Saddamist forces who are supported by the arrogant imperialist circles.

These international circles are very much aware of the possibilities of the situation and its various dimensions. They are coordinating the U.S. circle's available capability to respond to the closing of the Strait, if these possibilities were to occur.

On the military side, these circles believe that any U.S. attempt, regardless of its kind and color is impossible. If Washington wants to open the way by means of its Navy, those means are not far from the Islamic artillery on the coasts of the Strait, which will reclose the strait once again.

Suppose Washington pushes its huge forces to occupy the regions surrounding the Strait in order to secure the safety of passing ships. This would mean occupying parts of Islamic territory, which will not prevent the Islamic response that will be much stronger than Islamic (?theory).

Such an operation will make the Muslim people in Iran declare a jihad and an armed struggle against the U.S. invasion of their territories and they will rise up against the invaders. The presence of any U.S. destroyer near the Strait to secure the movement of ships will merely make it the target of various kinds of suicide operations, despite the U.S. forces' occupation of the Strait's coasts, if we assume this possibility.

In the light of the failure of these possibilities, Washington has only one way to open the Strait of Hormuz and that is to send its forces to occupy the Islamic Republic. But that would be impossible because it cannot occupy one inch of land. Its bitter experience in Lebanon has made the U.S. circles understand that occupation is not an easy task, even though the U.S. forces in Lebanon were part of a multinational force which was suppose to safeguard peace and despite all the propaganda about its role.

## Chief Justice Says U.S. Fears Islam

*GF291714 Tehran IRNA in English 1644 GMT 29 Feb 84*

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 29, IRNA — Chief Justice Musavi-Ardabili said Tuesday that after the culmination of the Islamic Revolution, Iranians proved their ability in supplying their own industrial needs. Musavi-Ardabili, who was talking to a group of visitors from the Niru battery manufacturing plant, affiliated with the defence industry, referred to recent threats by the United States concerning military interference in the region and said the U.S. would not risk a direct confrontation with Iran because Washington has a deep seated fear of Islam and the Islamic Revolution.

Musavi-Ardabili emphasized that a strong effort is necessary to reach the stage of advanced industrialization.

## New Offensive Launched 29 February

### Strategic Bridge Taken

*LD011015 Tehran IRNA in English 0957 GMT 1 Mar 84*

[Text] Khatim ol-Anbiya' HQ., Mar. 1, IRNA — The Islamic combatants of Iran seized a strategic bridge in the (Talayaqadim)- An-Nashwah region and achieved most of their targets in a new offensive launched Wednesday night and still continuing at 11:30 a.m. Tehran time.

During the offensive, heavy casualties were inflicted on the Iraqi enemy while a number of its force was captured by the forces of Islam.

Military sources described the offensive as successful and satisfactory.

According to another report, the Islamic combatants by 10:30 a.m. local time began installation of a pre-fabricated bridge over a 50-metre canal in the south of Talaya.

It should be noted that the Baghdad military spokesman confessed to the recent defeat of the Iraqi Army at 10:10 a.m. Tehran time, adding that Iran had seized new positions in Iraqi territory.

In this statement, which seems to have been released to prevent further Iraqi propaganda failures, the Iraqi enemy tried to downgrade recent victories achieved by the Islamic combatants of Iran.

### Iraqi Units Destroyed

*LD011119 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1035 GMT 1 Mar 84*

[Text] According to the report received from the Khatim ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, joint operations center of the Islamic Republic of Iran Armed Forces and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, last night the powerful and heroic fighters of Islam, continuing their victorious Khaybar operations, in a brave attack in the Talaya region succeeded in passing many obstacles and, in intense clashes, inflicted heavy blows on the enemy forces, causing them immense losses in personnel and equipment.

According to the reports we have received, so far the 1st battalion of 95th Iraqi Brigade has been destroyed and its personnel have been killed, wounded, or captured or have fled. Also one enemy tank battalion and one commando company have been completely destroyed

Advancing a few kilometers in the Talaya front, the fighters of Islam have occupied new positions and at the moment they are busy reinforcing their positions.

### Iraqi Counterattacks Repulsed at Majnun, Changuleh

*LD291102 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Feb 84*

[Text] According to the latest reports received from Khatim ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, two enemy counterattacks in the Val-Fajr V and Khaybar operational sectors were repulsed as the result of the matchless heroism of the forces of Islam. The Ba'thist forces were forced to withdraw after having suffered more losses and casualties.

Following their repeated defeats in the Khaybar operational sector, last night the enemy forces by utilizing a number of armored, infantry, mechanized, and commando units launched a counterattack to recapture the Majnun Islands. As the result of the reciprocal attack by the forces of Islam and the use of special tactics by antitank units, the enemy counterattack was smashed and the infidel Ba'thists were forced to flee after having suffered hundreds of dead and wounded.

After repulsing this counterattack, the forces of Islam gained full control of the region and deprived the enemy of any initiative.

On the other hand, according to reports received from the Val-Fajr V operational sector, in one of the operational axes in theChanguleh region, the defeated enemy last night launched a counterattack in that region, which was also repulsed; the Saddamist forces fled the operational sector after having suffered more heavy casualties.

Concerning the reasons for these enemy counterattacks, military commanders remarked that the Ba'thist forces carry out such maneuvers to boost the morale of their fighters, which has been greatly weakened as the result of the special Khaybar operations. However, the steadfastness of the brave fighters of Islam has deprived the Saddamists of any initiative at the fronts.

### IRNA: Iraq Confesses Loss of Majnun Islands

*LD292124 Tehran IRNA in English 2024 GMT 29 Feb 84*

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 29, IRNA — Iraq today confessed it has lost Majnun Islands after several days of silence and concealing the truth. The confession on the Iraqi defeat in the Khaybar operations and the liberation of Majnun Islands from the Iraqi domination and the control of these two islands and a part of Hawr al-Huwayzah by Islamic combatants was made Wednesday by General Hashem Sabah al-Fakhr, the operational commander in southern Iraq.

Announcing this defeat to foreign reporters, the commander expressed hope that the disordered Iraqi forces would succeed in taking back the Majnun Islands and Hawr al-Huwayzah from Islamic combatants in future.

The foreign reporters who were among those invited by the Iraqi regime to inspect the southern regions of that country and what Iraq endeavoured to present as victories against Iran's attacks, were taken to north Basra. They referred to Baghdad's explicit confession to losing control over the said regions.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the War Information Headquarters of the Islamic Republic today announced that presently there is no need for inviting foreign reporters residing here to inspect the liberated areas during the Khaybar operations after the clear confession of the Baghdad authorities and reports of foreign news agencies on the Iraqi defeat in these operations and the liberation of Majnun Islands and parts of Hawr al-Huwayzah regions of Iraq. He added that what the Islamic Republic wanted to announce to the world in this stage of the operations was declared following the invitation the Iraqi Information Ministry extended to foreign reporters residing in that country to inspect the fronts. He stressed that the world mass media have now confessed to the authenticity of the information published by the Islamic Republic authorities and the victories of Iranian combatants.

### Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,651

*LD291731 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Feb 84*

[Communique No 1,651 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] At 1215 today, several fighter aircraft of the Air Force of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran bombed concentrations of enemy armor and infantry forces on the Al-Qurnah-Al-Amarah road and returned safely to base.

Exchanges of fire continued yesterday on the northwestern border fronts. By opening fire on the enemy positions, the combative units of islam inflicted losses on several bases and enemy fortifications and installations, destroying one enemy excavation - construction vehicle and several infantry trenches.

Exchanges of fire also continued on the Bakhtaran and Ilam border fronts. Fire was more intense in the Sumar and Miyan Tang regions. On these fronts, guarding their defense positions, our forces returned the Iraqi forces' fire and brought enemy movements and traffic under control and, by opening fire on enemy positions, inflicted losses and casualties on the enemy.

As a result of the enemy's long-range weapons fire on the residential areas of Abadan yesterday, one school, five houses, and six shops were damaged. Following the crime committed yesterday by the Saddamist mercenaries, so far the pure bodies of 31 martyrs have been removed from the rubble. Those hospitalized as a result of this savage act total over 330. Meanwhile, 200 others who suffered superficial injuries received outpatient treatment.

### Iraqi Planes Downed in Khaybar Offensive Total 11

*LD011002 Tehran IRNA in English 0954 GMT 1 Mar 84*

[Text] Tehran, March 1 IRNA — The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces announced that an Iraqi Sokhoi-2 fighter plane was shot down by the Iranian Air Force jet fighters and antiaircraft units in the (Albakr-Alomayeh) region at 09:13 a.m. local time. This brings to eleven the number of Iraqi war planes downed by the Iranian defenders since the beginning of the victorious Khaybar offensive.

## Foreign Journalists Visit Chemical Bombing Victims

### 1,000 Reported Injured

*GF291728 Tehran IRNA in English 1657 GMT 29 Feb 84*

[Excerpt] Tehran, Feb. 29, IRNA — Some twenty foreign and domestic reporters today visited one hundred victims of the recent Iraqi chemical bombardment, currently hospitalised in Tehran.

Iraqi deployment of chemical weapons in the operational theatre of the Khaybar offensive, this week, has wounded approximately one thousand of the Islamic combatants. Those suffering from injuries from the bombing are hospitalised in Susangerd, Ahvaz, Shiraz and also in Tehran.

The group of foreign journalists included representatives from the People's Republic of China, Italy, Japan, France and several Arab countries. In their tour of the Labafi-Nejad hospital, northern Tehran, the newsmen, talked with the victims of the Iraqi attack.

A 34-year old teacher, 'Ali Akbar Famili, a volunteer fighter, told reporters that on Monday morning several Iraqi planes flew over the area at a low altitude, after which he noticed that his equipment was stained with a sticky, poisonous black substance. Famili who was suffering from an eye injury added that the day before that the Iraqi planes had carried out [words indistinct] area.

He also said that four to six hours after the incident he experienced burning of the nasal membrane, difficulty in breathing and severe eye irritation.

Another victim, 'Ali Farjami, listed in critical condition has been suffering from respiratory problems and was unable to talk to the reporters.

The physician of the victims, Dr Sohrab-Por informed the reporters on the conditions of the patients and the type of their injuries. He also said that those afflicted were treated in accordance with the latest methods developed by the Tehran University.

## IRNA Reports Death Toll in Bakhtaran Attack

*GF291720 Tehran IRNA in English 1650 GMT 29 Feb 84*

[Text] Bakhtaran, Feb. 29, IRNA — The death toll of the Tuesday afternoon Iraqi bombing of Bakhtaran, west Iran, rose to 30 martyrs and 338 wounded by 08:30 a.m. Wednesday.

All through Tuesday night and Wednesday morning relief operations were underway to pull bodies of the martyrs and wounded out of the debris. Because of the attack the windows of houses and shops over a radius of several hundreds metres were smashed.

In a march today, the Friday prayer leader, combatant ulema and revolutionary organisations in the city condemned this inhuman measure committed by the Iraqi regime.

A relief committee was formed under the auspices of the governor generals office for immediate meeting of the needs of the injured and the bereaved families.

## Various Groups Set To Depart for War Fronts

### Tabriz Volunteers

*GF290720 Tabriz Domestic Service in Azeri 1530 GMT 28 Feb 84*

[Text] The guards committee of the 5th District announced that another group of the forces of Islam will be sent to the fronts following marches which will be made from the center for dispatching forces to the Imam Khomeyni praying arena, tomorrow, Wednesday, 29 February at 0900. The Muslim citizens are invited to say farewell to these dear ones by shouting, "War, war until victory" tomorrow during this march.

### Mobilized Units

*GF010650 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 29 Feb 84*

[Excerpt] More than 1,000 self-sacrificing mobilized personnel of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps received a warm send-off by the people of Kazerun and left for the fronts of the Islamic battles against blasphemy.

## Khark Island Officials Meet, Discuss Problems

*GF291826 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 29 Feb 84*

[Text] A meeting of the coordination body of departments and the revolution organs of Khark Island was held yesterday at the residence of Hojjat ol-Eslam Salehi, the island's Friday imam.

According to a correspondent of the Central News Unit, this meeting, attended also by the Khark district governor, started with a recitation from the holy Koran. Hojjat ol-Eslam Salehi then read a part of the letter by 'Ali, peace be upon him, to Malik (Ashtar) and said that the revered 'Ali, peace be upon him, in this decree ordered Malik to adopt abstinence. The meaning of this decree is that responsible people are pious and obedient to God's commands, while at the same time they practice abstinence. He then referred to the victories of the brave soldiers of Islamic Iran, saying these worthy victories which have bewildered the world have been achieved by obedience to God's commands.

Participants in the meeting submitted reports on the problems and difficulties faced by Khark Island, including the distribution of foodstuffs, postal letters, transportation, and drinking water. Decisions were adopted on these issues.

### Montazeri Message to Lebanon on Raqib Harb Death

*LD181333 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Feb 84*

[Text] Following the martyrdom of Shaykh Raqib Harb, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri sent a message to Lebanese ulema:

In His exalted name. To their excellencies the hojaj-e ol-Eslam and the lofty ulema of Lebanon, may their good work continue: The recent Zionist crime in Islamic Lebanon and the barbarous attack on the lofty, committed clergyman and religious leader, Hojjat ol-Eslam Shaykh Raqib Harb, may his grave be in blissful peace, and his martyrdom have brought the Islamic movement in that region to a new phase.

While congratulating and conveying condolences to you in connection with the martyrdom of this fighting clergyman, who spent his life fighting blasphemy and Zionism and exalting the word of Islam, I would like to point out that thanks to inspiration from the experiences and achievements of the Islamic Revolution in Iran, the Islamic movement and the oppressed Lebanese Muslim people have found the rightful path and are blossoming forth and progressing with strength and might, praise be to God Almighty. In such circumstances, the role of the committed clergy and the leadership of Lebanon's scholarly ulema — may God Almighty support them! — will be important above all else. Today, Lebanon's selfless nation expects its illustrious and committed clergymen to guide it and lead the Islamic movement to final victory.

On the basis of the living experience of the Islamic Revolution in Iran, were it not for the clergy's leadership and guidance, headed by the decisive and timely acts of leadership of the great leader of the revolution, the revolution would certainly not have achieved victory so soon and no one would have known in which direction it would be pulled.

The plot currently threatening the Islamic movement in Lebanon involves intervention by the mysterious agents of global Zionism and the reactionary regimes in the region, which strive to slaughter the Islamic movement at the negotiating table for peace with the enemies of Islam and Muslims. Had it not been for the vigilance and decisiveness of the leader of the revolution in Iran, U.S. agents would have diverted the revolution from its path during the last days of the former regime. By stabilizing Bakhtiar and by carrying out surface changes in the regime of the defunct shah, they would have translated into action their own plot. Today, this same satanic course is in the process of being completed in the history of the Islamic movement in Lebanon.

I hope that the lofty clergy, the scholarly ulema, and the Muslim, revolutionary nation of Lebanon will vigilantly react to such plots and prepare themselves for continuing the movement, exalting the word of monotheism, destroying the regime which is subservient to Zionism and global blasphemy, and prepare themselves for setting up an Islamic government and securing the rights of all Lebanese strata and classes. They should also know that victory is nigh. And God will verily support those who support him! [Koranic quotation in Arabic]

Islam's foes and those subservient to the colonialists should also know that the pure blood of this illustrious religious leader is a hidden divine blessing which will render the Islamic movement in oppressed Lebanon more evident and make the zealous, courageous Muslim youth more determined to continue their sacred path to final victory! They should know that it was this great divine tradition, this good tree, constantly watered with the pure blood of the dear sons of Islam, which has achieved the blossoming of its growth throughout Islamic history.

I beseech Almighty God to grant greatness and glory to Islam and the Muslims, failure and destruction to global arrogance and its traitorous and criminal agents in the region, and final victory to the intrepid combatants of Islam on all fronts!

Peace and God's mercy be upon you.

[Signed] Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri

### Velayati Mentions 'Reactivating' Embassy in Syria

*GF191625 Tehran IRNA in English 1558 GMT 19 Feb 84*

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 19, IRNA — Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi said here today that martyrdom of Shaykh Raghib Harb in southern Lebanon and also assassination attempt against the Iranian ambassador to Syria, Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, were connected incidents.

The prime minister who was speaking after the Cabinet ministers session, added that martyrdom of Raghib Harb would only intensify struggle of the Muslims. The blood of this great personality would not go unrevenged, he added.

Among the reports presented to the session was one by Foreign Affairs Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, on the recovery of Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohtashemi who was injured in explosion of a letter bomb while on duty.

Velayati told the Cabinet that in a meeting with Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohtashemi, it had been decided that effective steps should be taken for reactivating the Islamic Republic Embassy in Syria to become closer to the progressive Arab countries and Syria in particular.

On the participation of the Iranian delegation in the recently concluded United Nations conference on disarmament, in Geneva, Musavi said that Iran used these conferences as a forum to echo the voice of the Islamic Revolution. It was within this framework that the Iranian foreign minister who was heading the Iranian delegation talked about crimes of the Iraqi ruler against Iran and deployment of chemical weapons against people of Iran, he added.

## Officials Meet With Syrian Education Minister

### Ayatollah Meshkini

*GF201725 Tehran IRNA in English 1710 GMT 20 Feb 84*

[Text] Qom, Feb. 20, IRNA — Syria's education minister, Mohammad Najib as-Sayyid Ahmad currently visiting Iran at the head of a Syrian delegation met here today with Ayatollah Meshkini, chairman of the Assembly of Experts and Friday prayers leader of Qom.

Following the meeting the Syrian minister commented on the aims of his visit to the holy city of Qom adding that the delegation had been looking forward to visiting the theological school of Qom and getting acquainted with the realities of the social and its teaching styles, as well as talking to ulema.

Commenting on the inter-relationship between the assassination attempt against the life of Iran's ambassador to Syria Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohtashami and the martyrdom of Shaykh Raghib Harb, the Syrian minister said the incidents were inspired by the U.S. and the Zionists in order to protect their interests in the region and especially in Lebanon.

### Prime Minister Musavi

*GF211648 Tehran IRNA in English 1623 GMT 21 Feb 84*

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 21 IRNA -- The visiting Syrian minister of education, Mohammad Najib as-Sayyid Ahmad, in a meeting with Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi here Monday night, hoped that overthrow of the [words indistinct] Iraqi imposed war, would enable forces of Iran and Syria to be employed in a joint struggle against [words indistinct].

He further added his visit to Iran provided him with an opportunity to witness the high morale of the Iranian people and their firm stance against plots of Zionism and imperialism.

The Syrian minister of education who arrived here Feb. 14, pointed out that conclusion of an educational agreement between Iran and Syria is aimed at strengthening of educational ties between the two countries. He also described his trip to Tehran as being productive.

Prime Minister Musavi referred to great political-cultural changes which have taken place in Iran following the Feb. 79 Islamic Revolution. He also explained to the Syrian minister of education the close ties the wicked Pahlavi regime held with the Zionist regime.

Under the former regime, the cultural and educational institutions were organised in a manner that beside making the country dependent on America, also spread the racist and anti-Arabic culture, in Iran. The policies then were centered on becoming alienated with the Islamic and Iranian culture and promoting Western values.

However, after the victory of the Islamic Revolution, return to the Islamic culture has opened the way for closer ties with Islamic countries. The Islamic culture, he stressed, while equipping people in their struggle against superpowers has resulted in significant progress, one example of which is publication of 2,000 books at university level by the cultural revolution headquarters in a period of two years.

The meeting was also attended by the Iranian minister of culture and higher education, Mohammad 'Ali Najjafi.

## Ayatollah Montazeri Meets With Libyan Envoy

*GF221614 Tehran IRNA in English 1555 GMT 22 Feb 84*

[Excerpt] Qom, Feb. 22, IRNA — Libyan Ambassador to Tehran Sa'd Mujbir Tuesday met with Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri.

During the meeting Mujbir talked about friendly ties of Iran and Libya and announced readiness of his country for cooperation in various fields with Iran including campaign against imperialism and repelling Saddam's aggression against Iran.

In reply Ayatollah Montazeri stressed on necessity of unity among Muslim nations vis-a-vis world blasphemy. He also prayed for the victory of Muslim combatants in their fight against aggressors in fronts of Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan and Lebanon as well as other places.

## Increased Trade With Hungary, Bulgaria Cited

*GF281744 Tehran IRNA in English 1723 GMT 28 Feb 84*

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 28, IRNA — Iran and Hungary signed a letter of understanding according to which the volume of trade between the two countries will be increased.

The Iranian minister of agriculture Abbas 'Ali Zali who concluded a tour of Hungary and Bulgaria Monday also said to an IRNA reporter that Hungary would increase by 12.5 percent its non oil purchases from Iran, and Iran would increase its non oil exports to Bulgaria by 12 percent.

The agriculture minister met with the prime minister and other top Hungarian and Bulgarian officials and outlined the just position of the Islamic Republic in the campaign against the world oppressors, particularly the United States.

He added that he held fruitful talks in the fields of agriculture, industries and trade with officials from both countries adding that the Hungarian minister of roads will pay a visit to Iran next week.

Referring to the volume of trade between Iran and Bulgaria Zali said that it stood at 400 million dollars in 1983. The volume of barter trade between Iran and Hungary registered 500 million dollars in 1983 and Iran supplied a major part of that country's oil needs.

**Free Voice of Iran: Guards Killed in Marivan**
*GF221756 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian*
*1500 GMT 22 Feb 84*

[Text] A group of brave combatant peshmarga of Rastgari, Marivan branch, laid an ambush on 15 February in Mandali and succeeded in controlling the supply route of the guards in the region and in killing five of the guards. The guards' automobiles were set on fire.

On 19 February, another group of brave combatant peshmarga of the Rastgari, Marivan branch, laid an ambush in the region and succeeded in killing seven of Khomeyni's guards. Among the guards killed are: Mohammad Mohammadai and Mostafa Wafamanish, residents of Sari, and 'Abbas 'Ali Maleki, resident of Esfahan.